

Ask Sam

“I have heard Wyoming is in a drought. Where can I find more information regarding drought in Wyoming?”

Great question! The definition of “drought” can be tricky to understand. Getting started with UW Bulletin 1325, *Navigating Drought in Wyoming*, bit.ly/B1325, is a good idea to learn more about drought. The bulletin also provides many resources for preparing for a drought, what to do during a drought, and what to consider following a drought.

The amount of water available for irrigation, recreation, and municipalities in the form of snow impacts many in Wyoming. Check out the SNOTEL Report provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for the latest snow reports around Wyoming, www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/snow. Type Wyoming in the Search field. This site can be helpful for a specific report of each basin in Wyoming, www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/BOR/basin.html.



The amount of precipitation that hits the ground in Wyoming also affects the amount of forage available to livestock and wildlife. Check out the U.S. Drought Monitor, droughtmonitor.unl.edu, to get the most recent report of drought in Wyoming. Many folks like to view weekly reports issued by USDA and distributed by the NRCS, bit.ly/nrcsweeklydrought.

Consider becoming a citizen scientist if you have that feeling of wanting more information or would like to get involved with helping monitor for droughts. The Community, Collaborative, Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) is one way to get involved, www.cocorahs.org. Citizens collect precipitation information that can be put into a database to help better track and understand Wyoming precipitation patterns and amounts.

— Sam

Newspaper? Social media? Radio?
Which do you use?
Take our survey.

UW Extension survey at <http://bit.ly/uw-extension-survey-21>

